



NEWS RELEASE

SBA Number : 06-14-0320
Release Date: Immediate

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LORENA MAAE NAMED MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR 2006



SANTA ANA, CA – Lorena Maae, Assistant Vice President, Community Relations for Citibank has been named the *Minority Small Business Champion of the Year 2006* by the Santa Ana District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Her selection was announced by District Director J. Adalberto Quijada who said “Lorena’s leadership and ability to undertake challenges have enabled her to assist a broad community of diverse small business owners.”

Maae was nominated by Linda Sarno, a patent attorney from Brea, CA, for going beyond the duties of her job when she provides resources to various business organizations and for her spirit of true and dedicated passion for the community.

Maae is known as a community leader in Orange County. Her most recent undertakings include founding chapter President of the National Latina Business Women’s Association of Orange County and Board Member of the Orange County President’s Council. She is a mentor to two college seniors, one through the Citigroup Foundation and currently attending USC and the other through The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) Program and currently attending Whittier College. Most recently Maae was installed as Chairman of the Board for the Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and will hold this position for two years. Maae sits on several advisory boards including the Asian Business Association of Orange County, Maternal Outreach Management Systems, and We Give Thanks.

Maae’s leadership in the community has been noted for several years and is demonstrated by the accolades she has received. She resides in Orange County with her husband of 17 years and her two boys, Ruben Anthony and Marcus Maae.

Ms. Maae will be honored at the SBA’s Small Business Award Luncheon on Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at The Grove of Anaheim, CA as part of a nationwide salute to small business. For further

information on the luncheon contact the Orange County Small Business Development Center at (714) 564-5202.

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